

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
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STATE OF IOWA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
JEFFREY R. VONK, DIRECTOR

Dear Teacher:

As the number of recreational boaters increase in Iowa the importance for safety and education becomes critical. In Iowa, since 1983 - we have experienced 140 boating related fatalities, with highs of eleven - and as few as one fatality during a single boating season. However, in 2003, we had **NO** boating related deaths in Iowa. To have *none* is quite remarkable. This is a very significant milestone and one we should all be taking note of and celebrating.

While good fortune certainly played a part, due credit must go to our conservation officers, our recreational safety officers and our seasonal water patrol officers for their presence patrolling Iowa's waterways and collectively working with the boating public in an effective effort of law enforcement and education.

A huge thanks also goes to our corps of volunteer boating safety instructors who conduct boating safety classes throughout the state. Our volunteer instructors - including our partners in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and the U.S. Power Squadron, are to be commended for their diligence and commitment to boating safety education in Iowa. It is a pleasure and a privilege to partner with such dedicated individuals and organizations.

The primary reason why we are offering students in Iowa this coloring book is to continue to teach: **USER RESPONSIBILITY, RESPECT and SAFETY**. We would greatly appreciate it if you would look through this coloring book and discuss it with your students. On the back of this book you will find a teacher's guide. This may give you additional ideas for discussion.

For additional information on boating and boat safety please check out these excellent websites:

U.S. Coast Guard: www.uscgboating.org
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary: www.uscgaux.org
U.S. Power Squadron: www.usps.org
National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA): www.nasbla.org
American Canoe Association: www.acanet.org
National Safe Boating Council: www.safeboatingcouncil.org
Personal Watercraft Industry Association: www.pwia.org
U.S. Sailing Association: www.ussailing.org
Iowa Department of Natural Resources: www.iowadnr.com

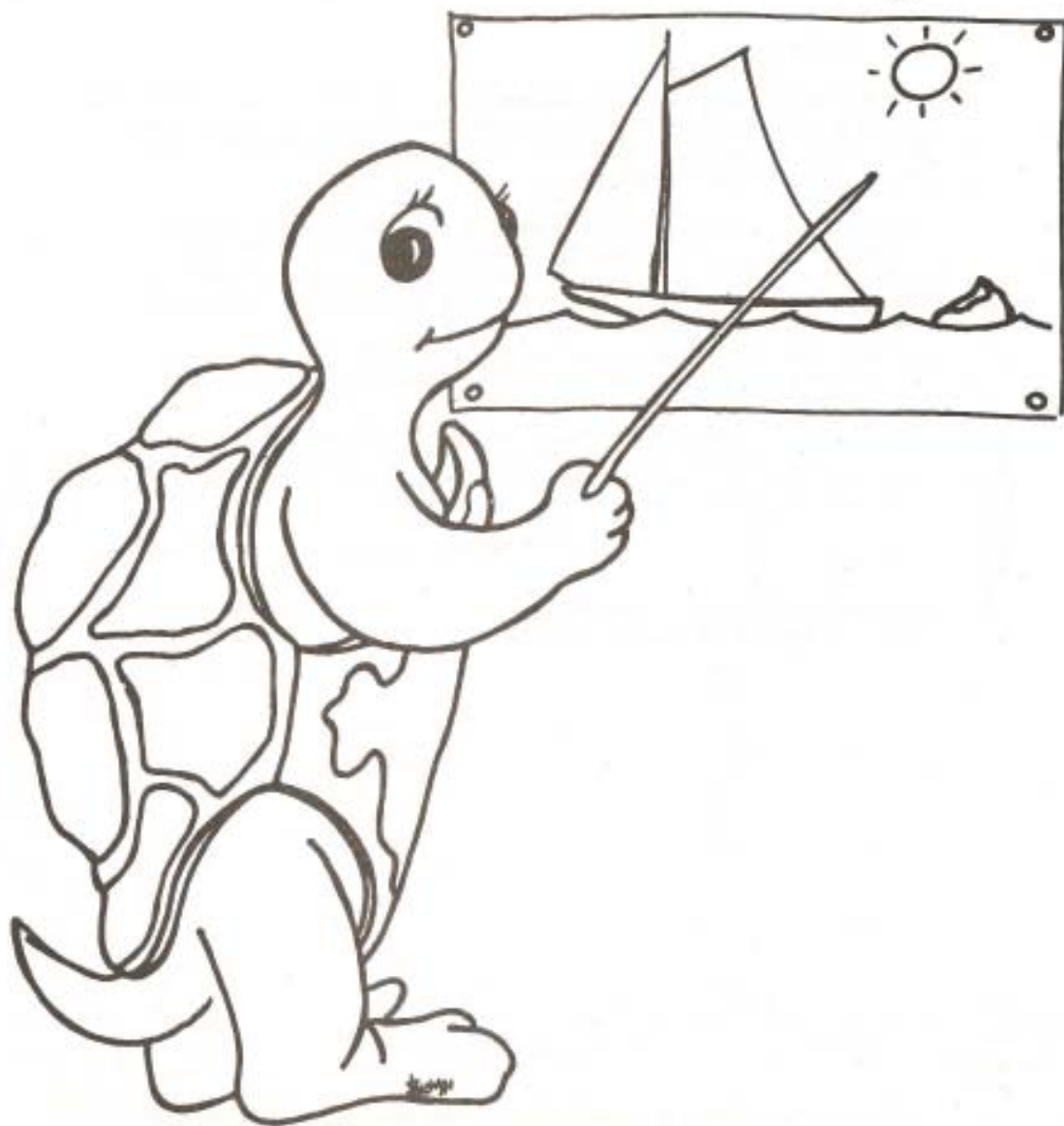
Thank you for presenting this material and please feel free to contact the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for additional information and the names of resource people to help with your class.

Sincerely,

Recreational Safety Programs Supervisor
Iowa Department of Natural Resources



Water can be lots of fun,
And it's here for everyone...
But water has its dangers, too,
So I will point them out to you!



The first and most
important rule is :
LEARN TO SWIM
just like these fishes.



The safest place
to swim is where
A lifeguard's watching
from the chair.



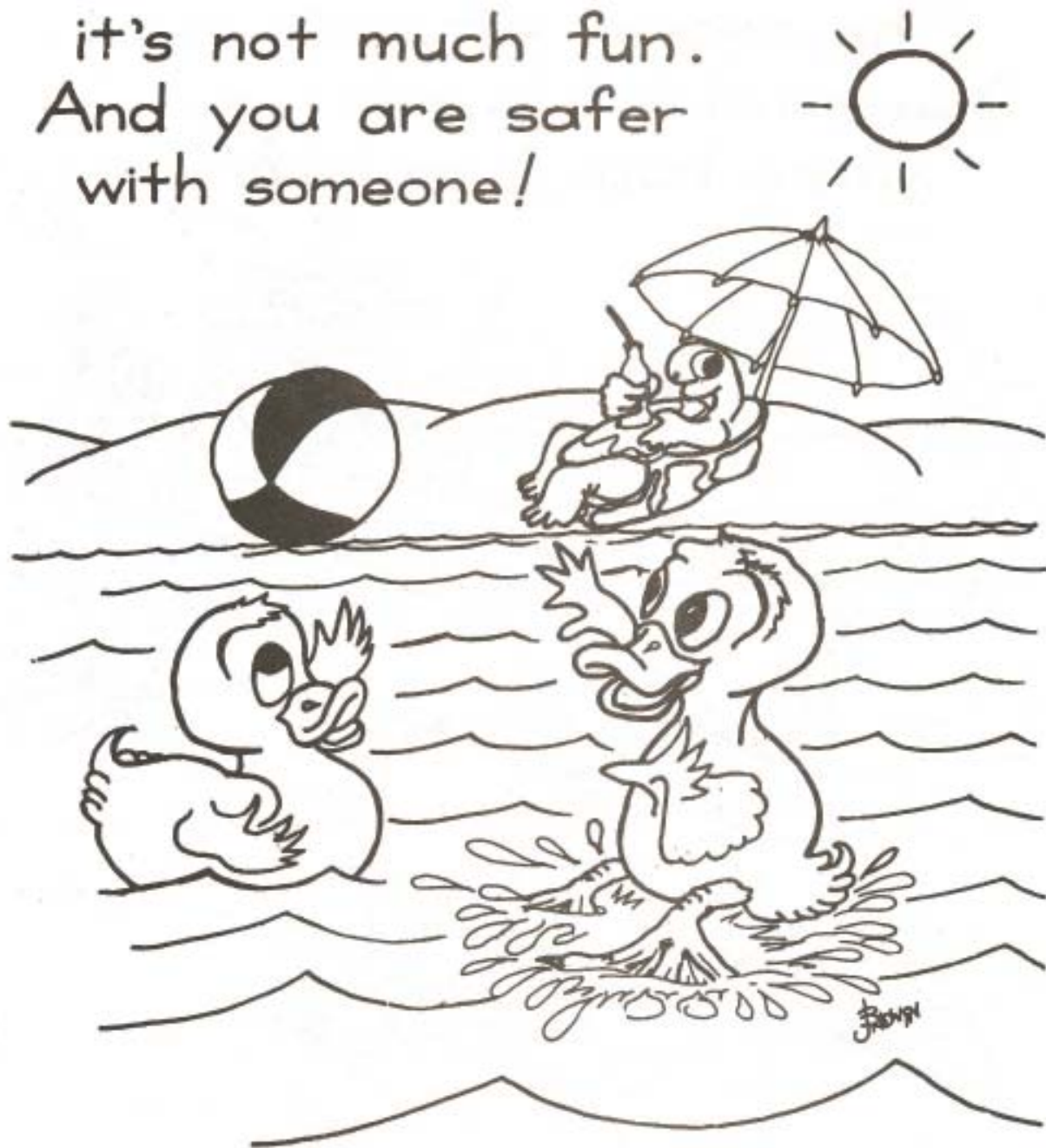
Know the water
where you swim,
What's beneath
could injure him!



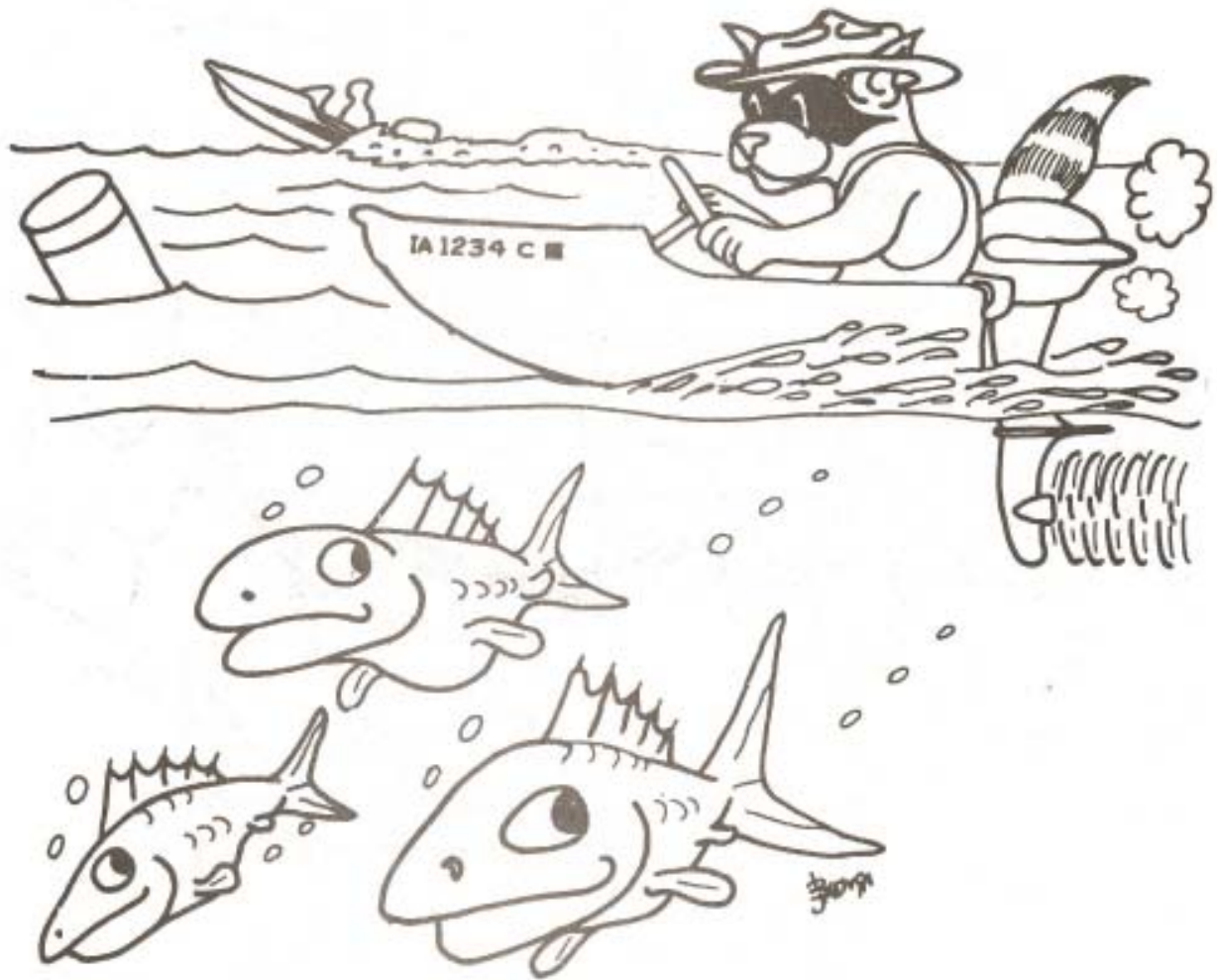
Signs can warn!
Obey them, please!
Never swim where
you see these!



Don't swim alone –
it's not much fun.
And you are safer
with someone!



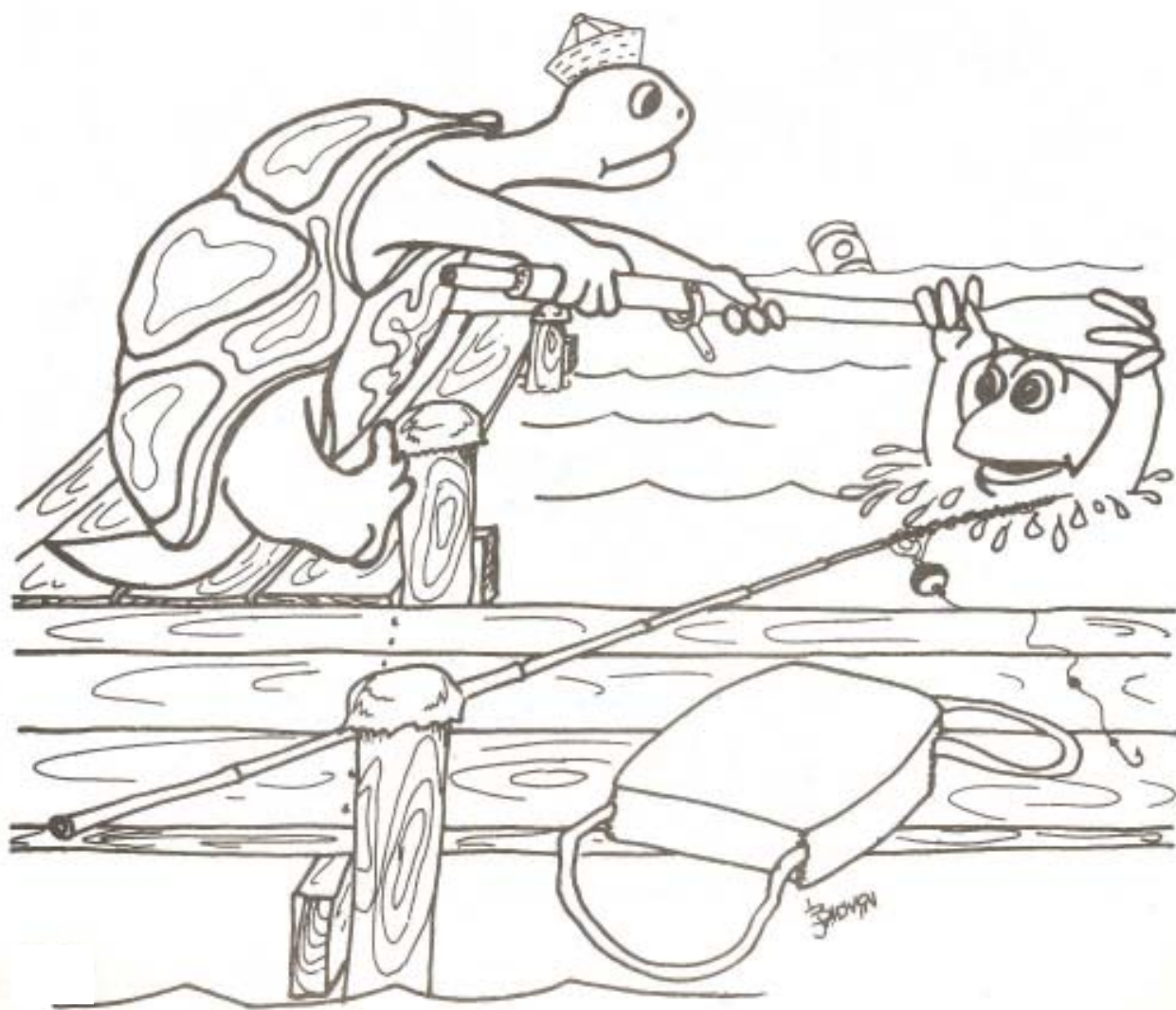
Do you know
the reason why
You shouldn't swim
where boats go by?



After eating
it is best
If you take
a little rest.



Knowing how to
help a friend
Could save two lives
in the end!



Would you like
to swim in here?
Someone could get
hurt, I fear.



Help keep our waters
clean and clear —
So you can swim
again next year!

When you go out
in a boat—
Wear your vest
to stay afloat!



To get in a
boat that's little:
Stay down low.
Step to the middle.



"Wiggle Worms" are
bound to rock it!
Don't stand up
until you dock it!



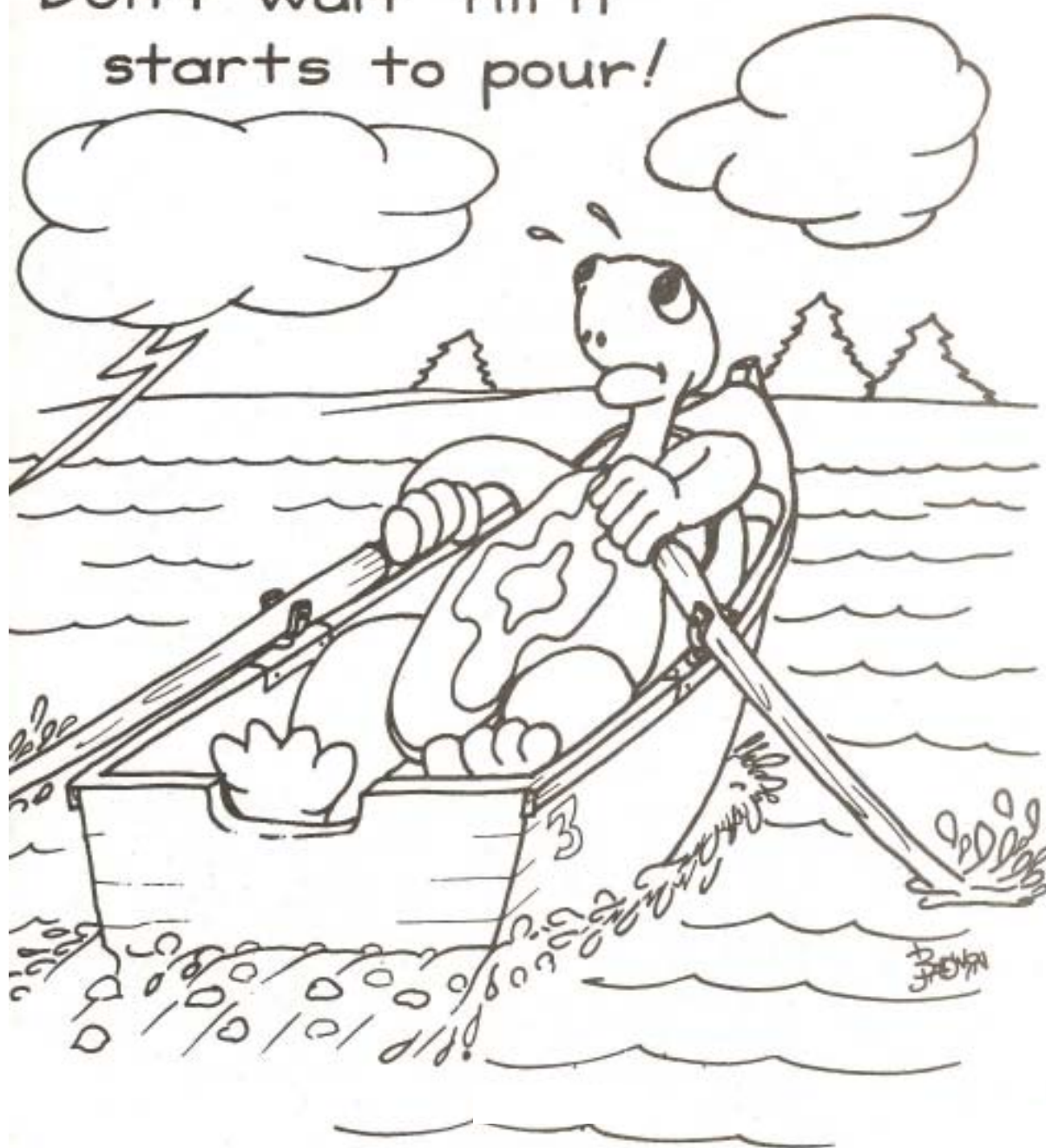
Look for 'hazards'
like this tree
That your 'skipper'
might not see.



Water's no place
for a clown!
He, or someone
else, might drown.



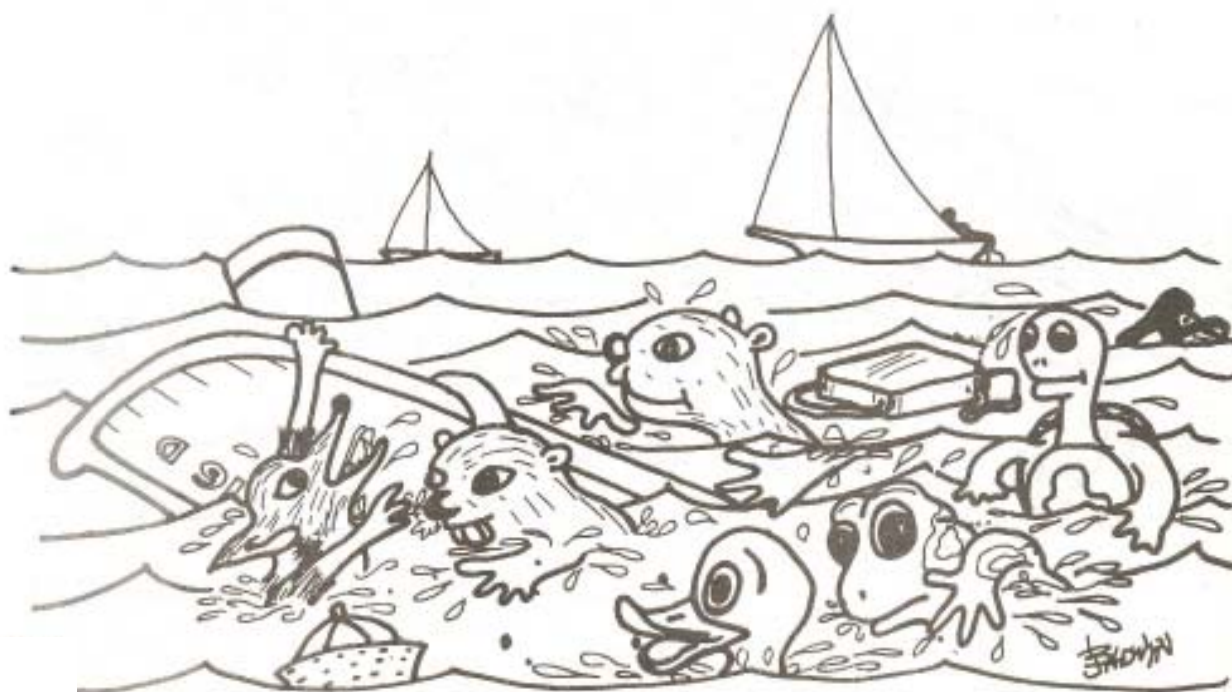
If skies darken –
head for shore!
Don't wait till it
starts to pour!



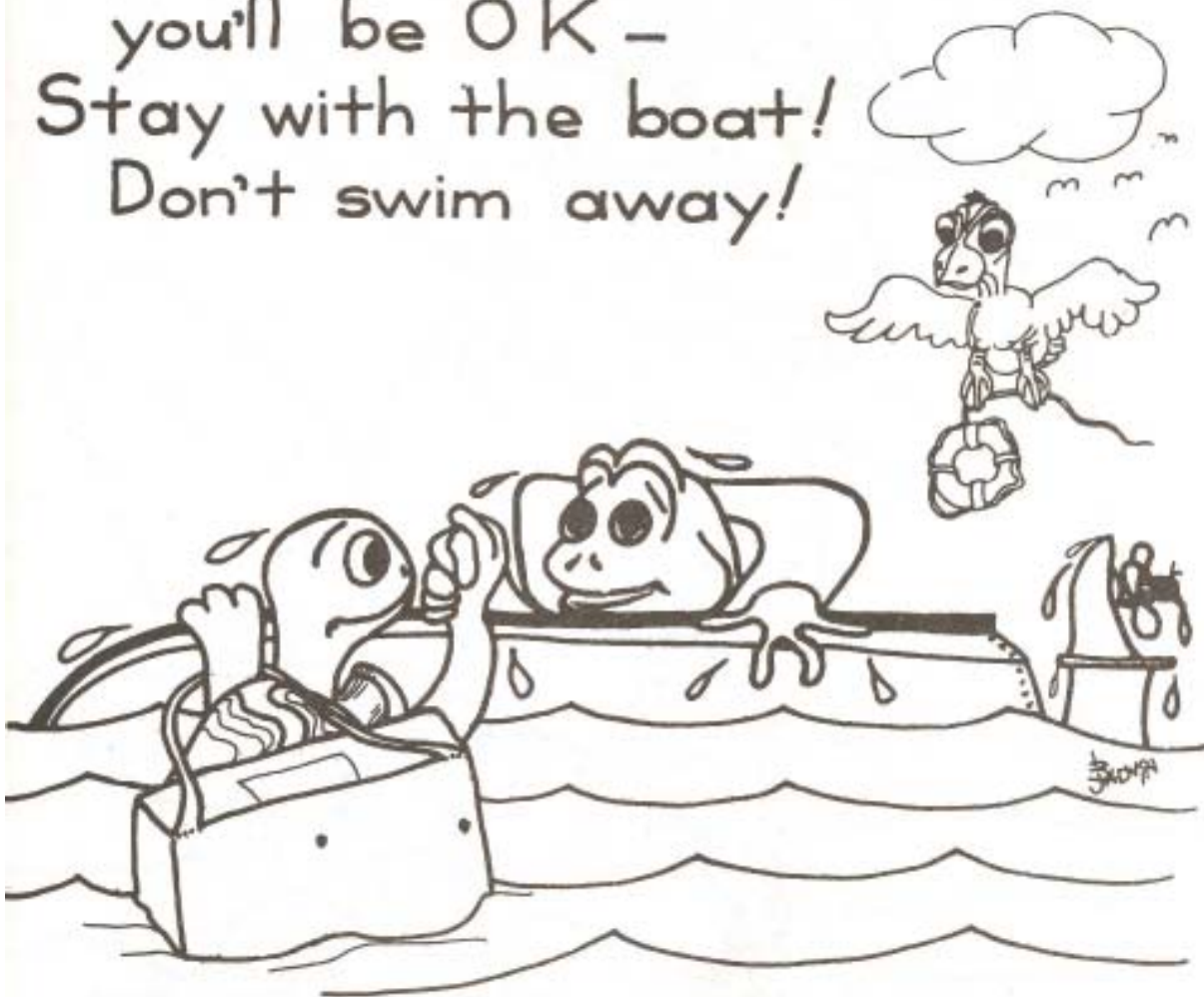
Boats are made
for just so many...



That's why this
one hasn't any!



If your boat
is overturned ...
Remember all
the things you've learned.
With your vest
you'll be OK -
Stay with the boat!
Don't swim away!

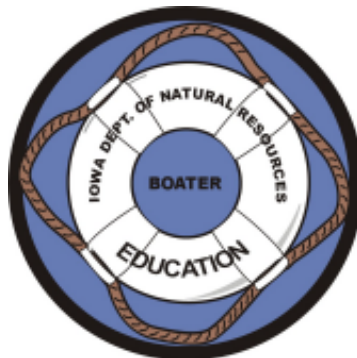


Now that you know
what to do –
Water will be
fun for you!



Teacher's Guide

- Page 6 -** Not only do you need to worry about what is beneath you when diving, but also this beaver is trusting his life to what looks like an old battered inner tube. Inner tubes and other inflatables can deflate quickly leaving a poor swimmer in a potentially fatal situation.
- Page 8 -** We suggest everyone should swim at supervised beaches only.
- Page 9 -** No one would think of crawling into a busy street and staying there. A swimmer in a boating lane is doing just that. Besides the possibility of being run over by the boat, the boat's propeller is also very dangerous. The propeller can cut and even dismember a person. It is almost impossible for a boat operator in heavy waves and glaring sunlight to spot a swimmer's head.
- Page 10 -** Although not looked upon as important as once thought, we feel it is still a good idea to take a little rest before swimming.
- Page 11 -** You do not need to know "life saving" to help save someone who is drowning. There are many items within an arm's reach which can be used or thrown to a drowning victim. For example, a picnic chest, picnic jug, tire, fishing rod, stick, etc.
- Page 12 -** Again, we stress always swim with someone and never trust your life to a battered old inner tube. Swim at supervised beaches only.
- Page 15 -** One of the leading causes of boating accidents is falling overboard. Never hang over the side or ride on the bow. Unexpected turns can also lead to persons falling overboard.
- Page 16 -** You can never be too safe. On the water be alert... for boats, swimmers, fishermen, skiers, skin divers, and underwater obstructions. Be sure to wear your PFD (Personal Flotation Device) at all times.
- Page 17 -** This clown is really asking for trouble. If you are a skier, stay away from solid objects, docks, boats, and swimmers. Again, he should be wearing a PFD.
- Page 18 -** If you should be caught in foul weather, reduce speed, head into waves at a slight angle, seat passengers on bottom of boat and make sure all PFD's are on and properly fastened.
- Page 19 -** "One more will matter." In the overloading of boats, boating accident statistics have shown that not only can you overload with bodies, but also with gear. Check the capacity of your boat for safe loading information.
- Page 21 -** Bouyancy cushions are not recommended for use by children or nonswimmers. They are difficult to hang onto in the water. Do not wear a boat cushion for jumping into the water. Hold onto the cushion while entering the water, then put arms, legs, or head through the straps so that the cushions fall across the chest. **NEVER** wear a cushion on the back. This tends to force the wearer's face into the water.



Boat Smart, Boat Safe



Wear It!



www.iowadnr.com

www.SafeBoatingCampaign.com



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